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Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Letter dated 8 March 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Declaration on the Issue of the Malvinas Islands and the special communiqué on exploration for fossil fuels on the Continental Shelf, which were adopted at the first Latin American and Caribbean Unity Summit, held in the Mayan Riviera, Mexico, on 22 and 23 February 2010 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 23.

(*Signed*) Claude **Heller**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 8 March 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Declaration on the Issue of the Malvinas Islands

[Original: English and Spanish]

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered at the Unity Summit, reaffirm their support to the legitimate rights of the Argentine Republic in the dispute over sovereignty with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland relating to the "Question of the Malvinas Islands".

They recall the regional interest in that the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland resume negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a just, peaceful and definitive solution to the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and declarations of the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

They further state that, in respect of the Treaty of Lisbon modifying the Treaty of the European Union and the Constitutive Treaty of the European Community, the inclusion of the Malvinas, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands in the regime of the Association of the Overseas Countries and Territories is incompatible with the legitimate rights of the Argentine Republic and with the existence of a sovereignty dispute over the said archipelagos.

Mayan Riviera, Mexico
23 February 2010

Special communiqué on exploration for fossil fuels on the Continental Shelf

At the Unity Summit of Latin America and the Caribbean, the President of the Argentine Republic, Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, informed the Heads of State of Latin America and the Caribbean about persistent unilateral British actions in prospecting for and extracting fossil fuels in the area of the Argentine continental shelf.

The President of Argentina noted that a semi-submersible oil rig had arrived to begin exploration work in an area of the Argentine continental shelf, located some 100 nautical miles north of the Malvinas Islands. In connection with this, on 2 February 2010, the Argentine Government sent the United Kingdom a note of protest, rejecting its decision to authorize those activities. That note of protest has been distributed as an official document of both the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

In this regard, the Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean recalled General Assembly resolution 31/49 which "calls upon the two parties to refrain from taking decisions that would imply introducing unilateral modifications in the situation while the islands are going through the process recommended" by the General Assembly.

Mayan Riviera, Mexico
23 February 2010